ABSTRACT

Drug Utilization Study of Corticosteroid Sparing Agent in Pediatric Patient with Lupus Nephritis
(Study at Pediatric Department of Dr. Soetomo Teaching Hospital, Surabaya)

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Corticosteroid sparing agents are used to control the underlying disease, reduce the side effects of corticosteroid therapy, and facilitate tapering off. The frequently used corticosteroid sparing agents are azathioprine, mycophenolate mofetil, hydroxychloroquine, and cyclophosphamide. Lupus nephritis occurs mostly in children and the main therapy used is long-term corticosteroids that can lead to organ damage, which should be treated by providing corticosteroid sparing agent.

This study was done to analyze the drug utilization profile as well as the tapering off pattern of corticosteroid and corticosteroid sparing agents and furthermore to identify potential adverse effects of corticosteroid sparing agent in pediatric patients with LN. The study used observational method that was analyzed descriptively on 37 patients with hospitalization period of January 2016 until December 2017.

The profile of corticosteroid sparing agent in patients with LN were combination of oral MMF and oral chloroquine, in which oral cyclosporine A was added in certain conditions, and combination of IV CPA pulse and oral chloroquine. The tapering off pattern of oral prednisone in the presence of corticosteroid sparing agent was in accordance with the Clinical Practice Guide, which was decrease of 5 mg / day every month. Actual adverse effects included leucopenia (34%), hepatotoxicity (13%), and GIT disorders (45%).

The corticosteroid sparing agent profile in pediatric patients with LN in Dr. Soetomo Hospital was in accordance with the Clinical Practice Guide (PPK) issued by Dr. Soetomo General Hospital. Both regular monitoring of patients as well as enhanced interprofessional collaboration are required to monitor adverse effects of corticosteroid sparing agents.

Keywords: Lupus nephritis, corticosteroid sparing agent, prednisone, MMF, cyclophosphamide, chloroquine, azathioprine